CHAPTER

3

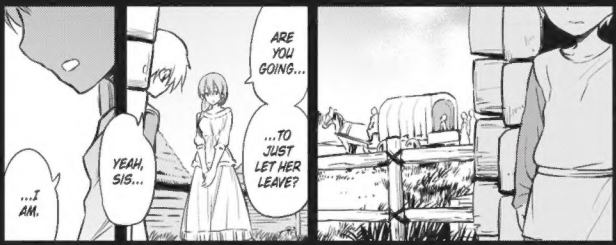
ORIGINAL STORY:
KUMO KAGYU

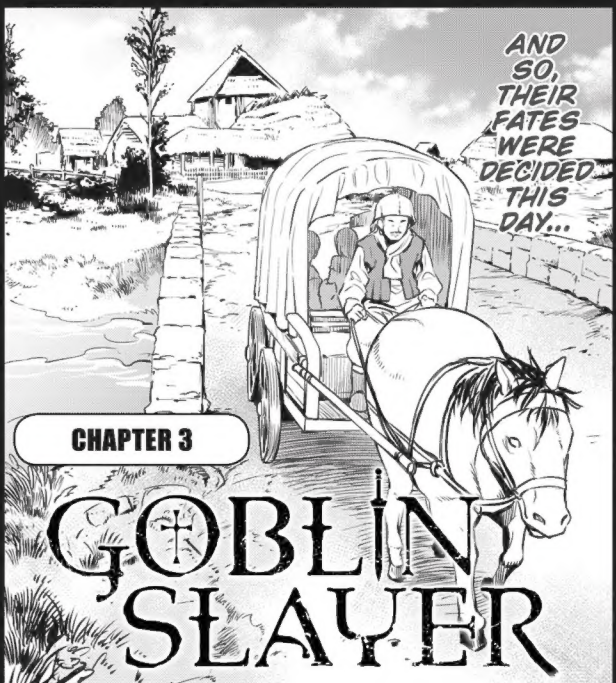
ART:
KOUSUKE KUROSE

CHARACTER DESIGN:
NOBORU KANNATUKI

GOBLIN SLAYER

GOBLIN SLAYER
YOU BE CAREFUL NOW.
YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT ON YOUR OWN?
YOU HELP YOUR UNCLE LIKE A BIG GIRL.
SURE!
SEE YOU LATER!



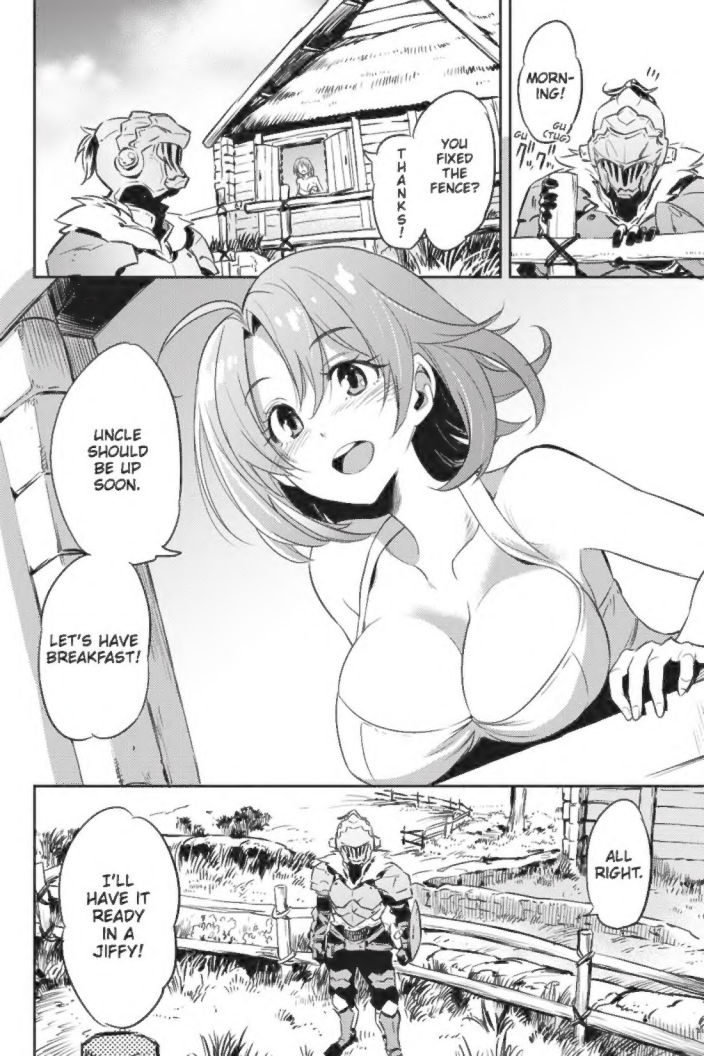


CHAPTER 3

GOBLIN SLAYER

MMM
一!

GACHA CCHAOO
ガチャ
FUWA CWHOOSHO
ふわっ


MORNING!
GU (TUG)
GU
YOU FIXED THE FENCE?
THANKS!
UNCLE SHOULD BE UP SOON.
LET'S HAVE BREAKFAST!
ALL RIGHT.
I'LL HAVE IT READY IN A JIFFY!

MMM! ♪
ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER DELICIOUS SOUP!

RIGHT?
INDEED...

ZU (SIP)
ZU
...

AWFULLY PROFITABLE, BEING AN ADVENTURER.
WITH THIS MUCH MONEY, HE COULD BE STAYING IN THE ROYAL SUITE SOMEWHERE ...

GOSO (RUSTLE)

HERE'S FOR THIS MONTH.
GOTO (THUNK)

...
I SEE.
YES.
GOING OUT AGAIN TODAY ...?

I'VE GOT SOME DELIVERIES TO MAKE AT THE GUILD.
HOW ABOUT WE GO TOGETH-ER?
FINE.
PHEW! I'M FULL.
OH ...
LET ME GET THE CART OUT, THEN...
OH, UNCLE, YOU'RE SUCH A MOTHER HEN. I'LL BE FINE.
I'M A LOT STRONGER THAN I LOOK, YOU KNOW!
SORRY FOR THE WAIT!

SHALL I TAKE THAT?
NOPE! I'M GOOD.
HEY... THANKS.
?
FOR... THE WAY YOU PATROL THE FARM EVERY MORNING AND MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF GOBLINS...
GOBLINS MOVE AT NIGHT.
THEY RETURN TO THEIR NESTS AT FIRST LIGHT, BUT THEY WILL ALWAYS SEND SCOUTS BEFORE AN ATTACK.

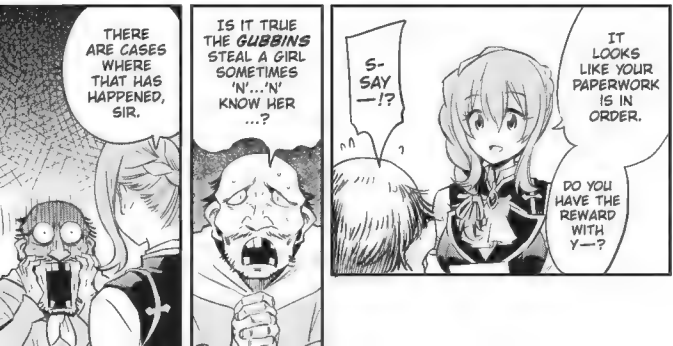
THERE HAVE BEEN MORE GOBLINS THAN USUAL LATELY.
SO IF THERE ARE ANY FOOTPRINTS, I MUST FIND THEM.
NO.
IT ISN'T.
MUST BE GREAT TO HAVE PLENTY OF WORK, HUH?
HUH ...
I WOULD RATHER THERE WERE NO GOBLINS AT ALL.

YEAH...
I'M JUST GONNA DROP OFF THE DELIVERY, OKAY?
MM.
HELP US!
YEH GOTTA HELP US!

THEM GUBBINS DONE COME DOWN T'OUR VILLAGE!
PLEASE, YEH JUST GOTTA!
PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM, SIR.
FILING A QUEST?
THE BATTLES AMONG THE GODS HAVE RAGED FOR SO LONG THAT MONSTERS ARE A FAMILIAR PART OF THE WORLD NOW.
PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME
HRRRM...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, SIR. HERE, HAVE A CLEAN FORM.
AND THEY'LL BURN THE FIELDS—!
IF'N THIS GOES ON, GODS KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO OUR COWS!
THEY TOOK OUR POOR LI'L BEASTS...
GUSHOAT COLUSIO
MMM

THE UNPRAYING— DRAGONS, DEMONS... GIANT EYES WITH THEIR UNHALLOWED NAMES, BANDS OF HEARTLESS BRIGANDS...
WHEN MONSTERS ATTACK A VILLAGE OR THE LIKE, THE VICTIMS COME SEEKING AID, AND IT IS THE JOB OF THE ADVENTURERS TO HELP THEM.

AND THE MOST NUMEROUS MONSTERS OF ALL...
...ARE GOBLINS.


IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR PAPERWORK IS IN ORDER.
S-SAY—!?
DO YOU HAVE THE REWARD WITH Y—?
IS IT TRUE THE GUBBINS STEAL A GIRL SOMETIMES 'N'...'N' KNOW HER ...?
THERE ARE CASES WHERE THAT HAS HAPPENED, SIR.

COPPER COINS ...
A FEW SILVERS ...
PLEASE! YEH GOTTA HELP US!
WE AIN'T EVEN GOT YOUNG LADIES FOR 'EM TO STEAL!
I'VE GOT ALL THE MONEY YEH WANT! THE WHOLE VILLAGE WENT IN TOGETHER!
DON (THONK)
THIS WILL BARELY AMOUNT TO TEN GOLD PIECES.
THEY MIGHT HIRE A FEW PORCELAINS WITH THIS.
WITH THE FEES, THEY MIGHT ACTUALLY BE IN THE RED.
BUT ...
PEKO (BOW)
PEKO
ALL RIGHT, I'VE CONFIRMED THE AMOUNT. YOU'RE ALL SET HERE.
REALLY!?
DON'T WORRY, SIR. SOME ADVENTURERS WILL BE BY WITHIN A FEW DAYS TO SLAY YOUR PROBLEM.
THANK YEH! THANK YEH SO MUCH!

PHEW...
THAT'S THE THIRD GOBLIN QUEST TODAY...
ANOTHER OLD MAN.
GOSH...
THERE WILL ALWAYS BE MORE GOBLINS.
THEY'RE LIKE HUMAN CHILDREN. YOU MIGHT THINK NUMBERS WERE THEIR ONLY ADVANTAGE.
BUT KIDS ARE SMARTER, AND STRONGER, AND QUICKER THAN WE USUALLY GIVE THEM CREDIT FOR. SO ARE GOBLINS.
BECAUSE THE PAY FOR GOBLIN QUESTS IS SO POOR, EXPERIENCED ADVENTURERS SEE THEM AS MORE TROUBLE THAN THEY'RE WORTH.
SO IT'S THE FRESH FACES WHO GO IN. AND THEY'LL SLAY THE GOBLINS. BUT THEY'LL BE INJURED OR KILLED IN THE PROCESS.
IF THE FIRST PARTY GETS WIPED, THE SECOND OR THIRD WILL COME THROUGH.
THE JOB GETS DONE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER... SO THE STATE DOES NOTHING.

I KNOW THE STATE AND OUR EXPERIENCED ADVENTURERS HAVE BIGGER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT, BUT...
OWWW... MY HEAD...
HAAAA (SIGH)
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
FINE...
THAT LEAVES THE CHOICE TO US— SEND THREE NOVICE PARTIES TO ALMOST CERTAIN DOOM?
OR LET THREE VILLAGES BURN?
GOBLINS ARE DANGEROUS. HARDLY ANY ADVENTURERS WITH SERIOUS EXPERIENCE UNDER THEIR BELTS WILL WILLINGLY TAKE THEM ON.
EXCEPT...
GACHA (CLACK)
ガチャ
PIN (SINGLE)
!!

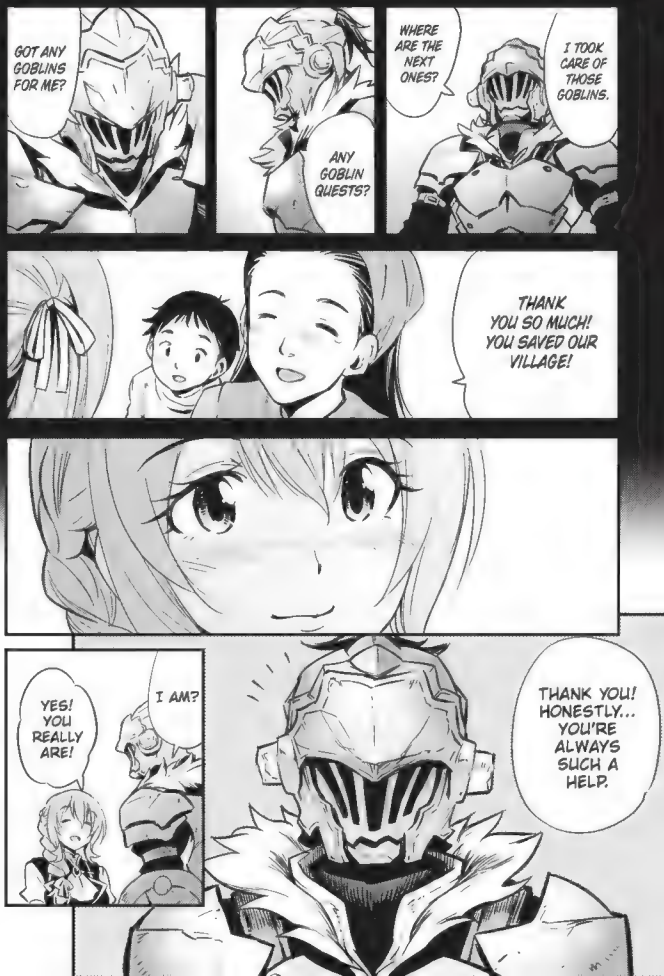
MY DEAR DESK-BOUND DAMSEL!
I HAVE DEFEATED SOME BRIGANDS!
SORRY!
LET ME TELL YOU! IT WASN'T EASY! THERE THEY WERE, ENCAMPED RIGHT ON THE MAIN ROAD!
OH MY, THAT SOUNDS VERY TIRING.
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN AT LEAST TWENTY MEN, AND I TOOK ON EVERY ONE!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY A STAMINA POTION TO RECOVER YOUR HP.
ONE, PLEASE!
HERE YOU ARE.
THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING WITH US!
GRAAAHH

OH!
UGH...
GOBLIN SLAYER.
GACHA (CLACK)
GUNSHING (GRIMACE)
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING ON THAT QUEST THE OTHER DAY!
IT WAS A HUGE HELP!
NO PROBLEM.
PLEASE, LET ME HEAR YOUR FULL REPORT! I'LL PUT THE KETTLE ON!
COULD I PLEASE GET YOUR SIGNATURE ON THIS DELIVERY SLIP?
OH, CERTAINLY!
THANKS FOR BRINGING EVERYTHING.
I APOLOGIZE IF I GOT IN THE WAY OF SOMETHING.
GUNSHING (GRIMACE)

I'D ALREADY FINISHED MAKING MY REPORT, SO WHAT DO I CARE?
NO...
AWW.
IS THE FRONTIER'S BADDEST...
...GETTING POUTY...?
AM NOT!
LOOK AT THEM!
THEY'RE A COUPLE OF FAMOUS SILVER-RANKS.
SHE'S HOTTT!
NOW LOOK AT HIM—TALK ABOUT DIRTY!
EVEN WE HAVE BETTER GEAR!
HEY, BE NICE! I'M SURE HE'S NEW, JUST LIKE US!
YIKES! SHE'S LOOKING OVER HERE!
GODS. TO THINK, HE'S SILVER-RANKED JUST LIKE US...

.....
CAN HE EVEN FIGHT ANYTHING BIGGER THAN A GOBLIN? A "SPECIALIST"? HA! THEY'LL GIVE A SILVER RANK TO ANYONE THESE DAYS!
OH....!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
HOW ABOUT A CUP OF TEA BEFORE YOU GO?
SOUNDS GREAT!
FORGET ABOUT HIM. HE NEVER WANTS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE REST OF US ANYWAY.

KACHA (KLINK)
カチャ
GUBI (GULP)
ぐびっ
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO...?
SO MANY GOBLIN QUESTS IN JUST ONE WEEK...
THE GOBLINS HAVE —!
WE'VE GOT GOBLINS!
I'M SORRY, THERE AREN'T ANY TROLL QUESTS RIGHT NOW...
OH! HOW ABOUT GOBLINS?
GOB-LINS?
...
I'M SOR—
GOBLINS?
I'LL HANDLE IT.
NO PROFIT...
...AND NO FUN.
GET SOME PORCELAINS TO DO IT.


GOT ANY GOBLINS FOR ME?
ANY GOBLIN QUESTS?
WHERE ARE THE NEXT ONES?
I TOOK CARE OF THOSE GOBLINS.
THANK YOU SO MUCH! YOU SAVED OUR VILLAGE!
YES! YOU REALLY ARE!
I AM?
THANK YOU! HONESTLY... YOU'RE ALWAYS SUCH A HELP.

WHY?
MAYBE THEY JUST ENJOY ATTACKING PEOPLE ...
WHY ARE GOBLINS ALWAYS RAIDING OUR VILLAGES ANYWAY?
IT'S SIMPLE.
IMAGINE THAT, ONE DAY, YOUR HOME IS SUDDENLY BESET BY MONSTERS.
THEY SWAGGER INTO YOUR VILLAGE LIKE IT BELONGS TO THEM.
THEY LOOT YOUR HOME.
THEY KILL YOUR FAMILY.
THEY KILL YOUR FRIENDS.

IMAGINE ...
...THEY TAKE YOUR BIG SISTER.
THEY TORTURE HER. THEY DEFILE HER. THEY KILL HER.

THEY LEAVE THE BODIES OF YOUR FAMILY LYING THERE.
THEY RUN ROUGHSHOD OVER EVERYTHING ...
...CACKLING ALL THE WHILE.

AND YOU SEE IT ALL...

HOW COULD YOU EVER LET THAT GO?
...FROM WHERE YOU'RE HIDDEN...
...TRYING NOT TO BREATHE.

SO YOU TAKE A WEAPON IN HAND. YOU TRAIN YOURSELF.
YOU LEARN. YOU GROW.
YOUR ONLY THOUGHT IS REVENGE.
YOU SEARCH THEM OUT...
... HUNT THEM DOWN ...
YOU FIGHT ...
YOU ATTACK ...
... AND KILL THEM.
... AND KILL THEM ...
AND YOU KILL THEM ...
... AND KILL THEM ...

...AND SOMETIMES THEY DON'T.
SOMETIMES THINGS GO WELL...
EACH TIME YOU ASK— HOW WILL I KILL THEM NEXT TIME? WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO KILL THEM? DAY AFTER DAY, MONTH AFTER MONTH, THAT'S THE SOLE THOUGHT THAT TAKES UP RESIDENCE IN YOUR HEAD.
OF COURSE, YOU TEST EVERY IDEA YOU HAVE WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF.
AND IN TIME...

...YOU COME TO RELISH IT.

UM, IS THAT ...?
ARE YOU ...?
SOME THINK THEY'RE BEING MAGNANI-MOUS...
...BY SPARING THE YOUNG.
THEY ARE FOOLS.
ARE YOU STILL TALKING ABOUT GOB-LINS? OR...

HE'LL SAY, "I DROVE OFF A GOBLIN ONCE. IT WAS SMALL FRY."
ONCE IN A WHILE, I'LL MEET A VILLAGE TOUGH.

LET PEOPLE DO THAT ONCE OR TWICE, AND THEY GET THE IDEA THAT THEY SHOULD BECOME ADVENTURERS.
BUT WHAT THAT USUALLY MEANS IS THEY SMOKED THE GOBS OUT AND SENT THEM FLEEING.

WANDERERS OFTEN JOIN OTHER NESTS AS CHIEFTAINS OR GUARDS.
THE GOBLIN, ON THE OTHER HAND, LEARNS AND GROWS FROM THE ENCOUNTER. IT IS KNOWN AS A "WANDERER."

WELL, THAT'S HOW THINGS USUALLY GO.
IN OTHER WORDS, I AM TO GOBLINS WHAT GOBLINS ARE TO US.
...
SHEESH ...
NOW, THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD, BUT...

ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
BIKI CHARGING
ビキ BIKI ビキ
...WE'RE THE ONES WHO GIVE YOU YOUR QUESTS. SO, BY YOUR LOGIC, WHAT DOES THAT MAKE US?
ARE YOU COMPARING US TO EVIL SPIRITS OR THE DARK GODS? AM I REALLY THAT SCARY?
DO I LOOK LIKE A HORNED MONSTER TO YOU?
HEE ...!
SOMEBODY HAS TO DO THESE QUESTS, AND YOU'RE DOING THEM.
YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF THAT.
WELL, THAT'S WHAT IT SOUNDED LIKE!
GAN GRAND
..... THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
HOW CAN THE GUILD KEEP UP ITS REPUTATION WITH TALK LIKE THAT GOING AROUND?
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T OFFER YOU QUESTS IN THE FUTURE.
THAT WOULD...
...BE A PROBLEM FOR ME.

YOU'RE A SILVER-RANKED ADVENTURER, REMEMBER?
GUILD
CARD
H-HELLO, SIR...
OOH!
PARDON ME!
OH!
OH...
GACHA CLATTER
CHIRIN JINGLE
CHIRIN

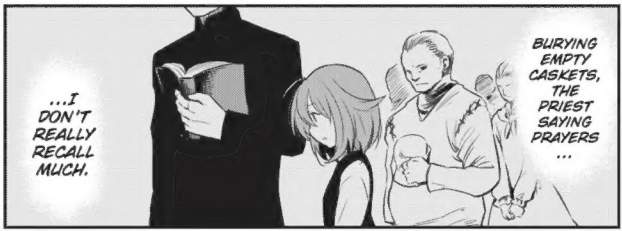
FAR BETTER THAN LETTING ANY GOBLINS LIVE.
Y-YOU NEED TO THINK MORE ABOUT... ABOUT THE CONSE-QUENCES OF YOUR ACTIONS!
I-I THINK DESTROYING THE WHOLE CAVE WITH THAT FIRE MIXTURE WAS TOO... TOO MUCH!
WHAT IF THE WHOLE M-MOUNTAIN HAD COME DOWN!?
A—
ABOUT OUR LAST QUEST...!!
BE-CAUSE FOR THEM, THAT IS—
UM... MORNING OR EVENING.
AND DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN TO ATTACK?
YOU KNOW...
...WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME I HEARD HIM TALK THIS MUCH?
...BUT HE NEVER MENTIONED A GIRL!
HE SAID HE'D BEEN PARTIED WITH A NOVICE ADVENTURER RECENTLY...
SHE'S ELEGANT... CUTE..
WE ALREADY HAVE CASUALTIES.
AND SOME ADVENTURERS WHO WENT TO LEND A HAND HAVEN'T...
SO THEY'VE MOVED INTO THE FORTRESS IN THE NORTHERN MOUNTAIN RANGE...
YES! THREE TODAY.
ANY GOBLIN QUESTS?

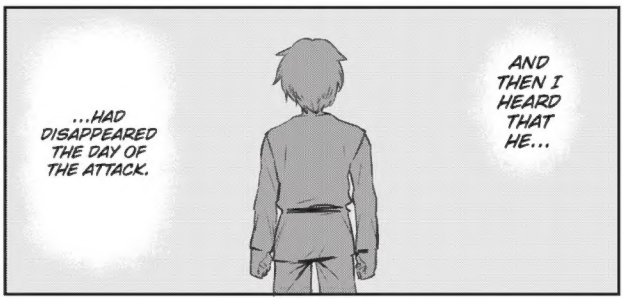
AS FOR THIS ONE...
BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE IT. IF WE DESTROY THE NEST NOW, THINGS MAY END THERE.
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THEM.
IT SAYS SOME GOBLINS WERE SEEN CARRYING OFF CHICKENS AROUND DAWN.
THE OLD MAN'S QUEST ...
THAT'S NOT THE WORK OF A HORDE. THERE CAN'T BE MORE THAN TWO OR THREE GOBLINS THERE.
THEY WON'T DO SERIOUS HARM ANY TIME SOON.
BUT IT'S POSSIBLE THEY'RE ESTABLISHING A NEST IN THE AREA.
AND IT'S ON THE WAY TO THE OTHER QUEST.
WE'LL SEE TO IT THEY DON'T HAVE TIME TO GROW INTO A HORDE.
WE'LL TAKE THESE TWO.
!
THANK YOU SO MUCH!

I'M GOING.
SURE.
BE CAREFUL, OKAY?
IF YOU'RE SURE.
I'LL GET ANOTHER PARTY TO HANDLE THE THIRD QUEST.
I CAN FIND SOMEONE!
THANKS FOR THE TEA!
YOU TOO. GET HOME SAFELY.
PEKORI (BOW)
NO

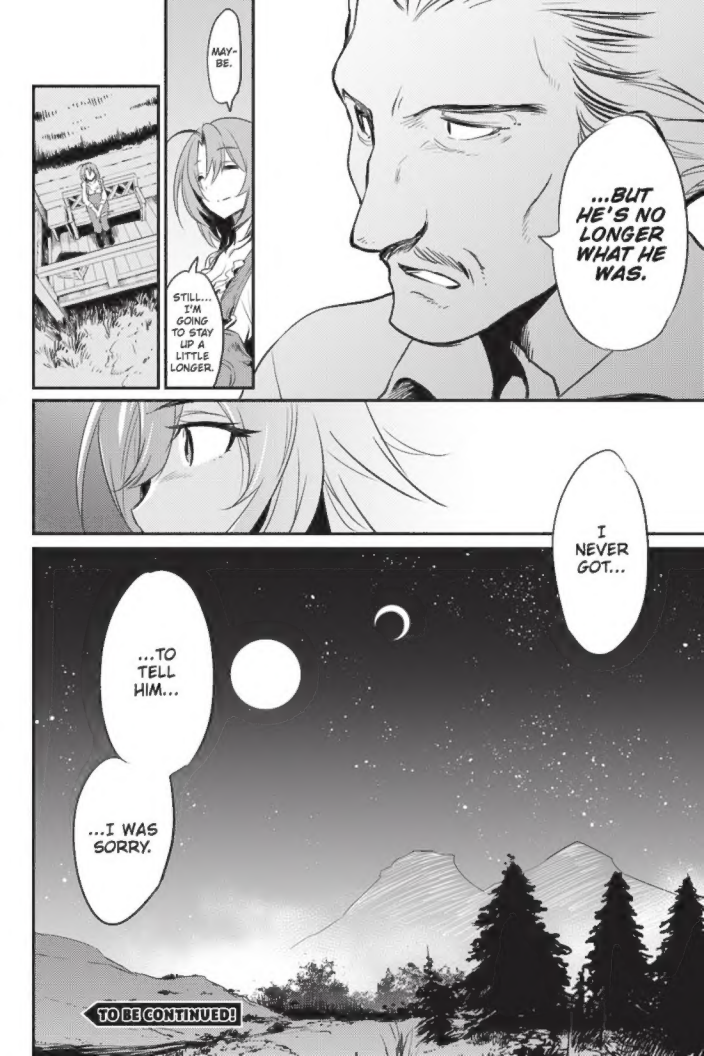
...THE VILLAGE WAS ATTACKED BY GOBLINS.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO MY MOM AND DAD. ONLY THAT THE GOBLINS CAME...
...AND THEN I DIDN'T HAVE A MOM AND DAD ANYMORE.


BURYING EMPTY CASKETS, THE PRIEST SAYING PRAYERS ...
...I DON'T REALLY RECALL MUCH.


AND THEN I HEARD THAT HE...
...HAD DISAPPEARED THE DAY OF THE ATTACK.

IF I COULD'VE ASKED HIM TO COME WITH ME...
IF WE HADN'T FOUGHT THAT DAY...
...WOULD THINGS HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT?
HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN YOUR FRIEND ONCE...
...I LET HIM STAY HERE BECAUSE HE PAYS ME, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T GET SO INVOLVED WITH HIM.
I KNOW. I'LL TURN IN SOON.
TOMORROW'S GOING TO BE ROUGH IF YOU PLAN TO STAY UP ALL NIGHT.


MAY-BE.
STILL... I'M GOING TO STAY UP A LITTLE LONGER.
...BUT HE'S NO LONGER WHAT HE WAS.
I NEVER GOT...
...TO TELL HIM...
...I WAS SORRY.
TO BE CONTINUED!

GOBLIN SLAYER Chapter 3

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